



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the Application of: **SAKAMOTO, Hikaru et al.**

Serial No.: 09/857,187

Group Art Unit: 1745

Filed: **June 20, 2001**

Examiner: **RUTHKOSKY, Mark**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 2959

For: **PROCESS FOR PRODUCING LEAD-ACID BATTERY AND JIG FOR
PRODUCING LEAD-ACID BATTERY**

RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
DATED SEPTEMBER 24, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: October 15, 2003

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated **September 24, 2003**.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), Claims 1-13, drawn to a process for producing a lead acid battery; and Group (II), Claims 14 and 15, drawn to a laser-welding jig.

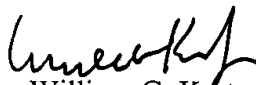
Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (I), Claims 1-13 for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please
charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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